

## Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ISO-00 CCO-00 IO-10 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12

NEA-09 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 SCS-03 SCA-01 /103 R

DRAFTED BY EA:PHABIB:BJR

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

S/S:JHOGANSON

----- 027102

Z 150444Z MAY 75 ZFF3

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS FLASH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US

SUBJECT:SEIZURE OF US MERCHANT VESSEL BY CAMBODIAN FORCES

1. THIS IS TO INFORM YOU OF THE LATEST DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT WITH REGARD TO THE SEIZURE OF THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT SHIP IN THE GULF OF SIAM BY CAMBODIAN FORCES. YOU SHOULD INFORM LOCAL OFFICIALS AT THE HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH WE HAVE TAKEN CERTAIN NECESSARY ACTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

THE U.S. MERCHANT SHIP MAYAGUEZ WAS FIRED UPON AND BOARDED BY CAMBODIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ON MAY 12 WHILE IT WAS PASSING THROUGH INTERNATIONAL WATERS IN THE GULF OF SIAM. THE INNOCENT PASSAGE OF THIS MERCHANT VESSEL WAS INTERRUPTED BY THIS ILLEGAL ACT.

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THE USG HAS TRIED THROUGH VARIOUS DIPLOMATIC MEANS TO SE-

CURE THE RELEASE OF THE SHIP AND ITS CREW. SUCH EFFORTS,  
INCLUDING A DIRECT APPEAL TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT,  
HAD BEEN TO NO AVAIL.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE USG ON MAY 14 (WASHINGTON TIME)  
TOOK APPROPRIATE MILITARY ACTION TO SECURE THE RELEASE  
OF THE SHIP AND ITS CREW AND TO ASSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE

OPERATION. THIS ACTION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 51  
OF THE U.N. CHARTER. THE OPERATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY  
COMPLETED, THE SHIP HAS BEEN RECOVERED, AND THE CREW  
RELEASED. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP DETENTION, INNOCENT PASSAGE, MAYAGUEZ SS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, PRISONERS RELEASE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE113030  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** PHABIB:BJR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750170-0469  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750549/aaaabrpk.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 SEP 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EIZURE OF US MERCHANT VESSEL BY CAMBODIAN FORCES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US  
**To:** ALL POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006